

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

Call to Order: Chairman Mike Jopek, on February 10, 2009 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 472 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Mike Jopek, Chairman (D)
Rep. Edward B. Butcher, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Julie French, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Russell Bean (R)
Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Rep. Sue Dickenson (D)
Rep. Timothy Furey (D)
Rep. Brian Hoven (R)
Rep. David Howard (R)
Rep. Krayton Kerns (R)
Rep. Margaret MacDonald (D)
Rep. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)
Rep. Lee Randall (R)
Rep. Keith Regier (R)
Rep. J. David Roundstone (D)
Rep. Janna Taylor (R)
Rep. Wendy Warburton (R)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: Rep. Tony Belcourt (D)
Rep. John Fleming (D)
Rep. Bob Wagner (R)

Staff Present: Todd Everts, Legislative Branch
Marshall McEwen, Committee Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 415, HB 416, 2/2/2009; HB 478,
2/9/2009

Executive Action: None

HEARING ON HB 478

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:21 Rep. Wanda Grinde (D), HD 48, opened the hearing on HB
478, Eliminate licensing fees for small plant sellers.
00:01:32 Rep. Wagner entered the room.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:05:30 Linda Gryczan, Grow Montana
00:06:09 Julia Page, Northern Plains Resource Council
00:07:41 Chairman Jopek

Opponents' Testimony:

00:08:42 Greg Ames, Administrator, Agriculture Science Division,
Department of Agriculture
[EXHIBIT](#)(agh31a01)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:13:12 Rep. Butcher
00:13:37 Rep. Grinde
00:13:38 Rep. Butcher
00:13:55 Rep. Grinde
00:14:02 Rep. Wagner
00:14:24 Mr. Ames
00:14:38 Donna Rise, Bureau Chief, Agriculture Sciences
Division, Department of Agriculture
00:15:09 Rep. Wagner
00:15:27 Mr. Rise

Closing by Sponsor:

00:16:27 Rep. Grinde
00:17:13 Chairman Jopek

HEARING ON HB 415

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:17:35 Rep. Margaret MacDonald (D), HD 54, opened the hearing
on HB 415, Regulate micro-processing of biodiesel.
00:17:49 Rep. Fleming entered the room.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:29:48 Connie Keogh, Northern Plains Resource council
00:33:42 Brian Spanglar, Department of Environmental Quality
00:34:45 Will Selser, Montana Recycling Association
00:35:24 Richard Parks, Northern Plains Resource Council

EXHIBIT (agh31a02)

00:37:19 Dan Downs, Board of Directors, Montana Farmers Union
00:38:29 Joel Clairmont, Deputy Director, Montana Department of
Agriculture
00:38:58 Nancy Schlepp, Montana Farm Bureau Federation
00:39:39 Linda Gryczan, Alternative Energy Resources
00:41:02 Matt Elsaesser, Executive Director, SAVE Foundation

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:42:36 Jack Kane, Deputy Administrator, Business Standards
Division, Department of Business and Labor

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:43:03 Rep. Hoven
00:43:34 Rep. MacDonald
00:44:43 Rep. Dickenson
00:45:28 Mr. Spanglar
00:45:50 Rep. Dickenson
00:45:56 Mr. Kane
00:45:58 Rep. Dickenson
00:46:32 Mr. Kane
00:48:19 Rep. Furey
00:48:54 Mr. Kane
00:49:06 Rep. Randall
00:49:29 Mr. Kane
00:49:38 Rep. Randall
00:50:00 Mr. Kane
00:50:28 Rep. Warburton
00:50:51 Ms. Keogh
00:51:07 Ms. MacDonald
00:51:41 Rep. Warburton

00:51:49 Ms. MacDonald
00:52:14 Rep. Warburton
00:52:41 Ms. MacDonald
00:53:13 Rep. Bean
00:53:43 Ms. MacDonald
00:54:53 Rep. Bean
00:55:10 Ms. MacDonald
00:58:51 Rep. Randall
00:59:29 Mr. Spanglar
01:00:16 Rep. Dickenson
01:00:40 Ms. Keogh
01:00:55 Rep. Dickenson
01:01:28 Ms. Keogh
01:01:50 Chairman Jopek

Closing by Sponsor:

01:01:59 Rep. MacDonald
01:02:33 Chairman Jopek

HEARING ON HB 416

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:03:06 Rep. Margaret MacDonald (D), HD 54, opened the hearing
on HB 416, Exempt certain biodiesel from state tax.

[EXHIBIT](#)(agh31a03)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:06:44 Matt Elseasser, SAVE Foundation
01:07:25 Will Selser, Montana Recycling Association
01:08:50 Richard Parks, Northern Plains Resource Council

Opponents' Testimony:

01:09:40 Spook Stang, Executive Vice President, Montana Motor
Carriers Association

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:11:24 Rep. French
01:11:54 Rep. MacDonald
01:12:47 Rep. French
01:13:04 Rep. MacDonald
01:13:35 Rep. French
01:13:50 Rep. MacDonald

01:14:04 Rep. Randall
01:14:48 Ms. MacDonald
01:15:19 Rep. Randall
01:15:55 Ms. MacDonald
01:16:24 Mr. Elseasser

Closing by Sponsor:

01:17:03 Ms. MacDonald
01:17:25 Chairman Jopek

Additional Documents

ADJOURNMENT

01:18:45 Adjournment: 4:18 p.m.

Marshall McEwen, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([agh31aad.pdf](#))